

THE IX BUSINESS FORUM OF THE GREATER CARIBBEAN

Moving Forward Together: Greater Caribbean Visions for the Future



During the month of September 2008, Aruba will be host to the IX Business Forum of the Greater Caribbean. This event will take place between the 23rd & the 25th of September and all the activities will take place at one venue: the Aruba Renaissance Convention Center.

The Business Forum is a three-day event consisting of an Interactive Conference, Business Meetings (matchmaking) and Exposition. The Business Forum of the Greater Caribbean is an annual event of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), which seeks to foster solid entrepreneurial relations among members of the Business Community in the region. The Forum attracts hundreds of companies from ACS Member States and Associate Members, which are countries in the Caribbean Basin, Central America and South

America. In addition there will be participants from Europe, Asia and North America.

The intention of the Business Forum is that participants, which will be companies, experts, and government representatives of the Caribbean and the rest of the world will be able to contribute to a Greater Caribbean vision by participating. During the Interactive Conference there will be presentations of the strengths, visions, aspirations and opportunities of trade and trade related issues in the

region. In addition there will be an opportunity for questions and discussions.

Several topics will be discussed during this Forum. The current uncertainties in the international economic and financial arena, the opportunities there are to overcome these uncertainties as a Greater Caribbean region, and how to move forward. The invited guest speakers are:

- Mr. Eduardo de Veer, President of Meta Corp.,
- Mr. Richard Visser, Modern Medicine Man,
- Mr. Franz Bachleitner, Trade Advisor of the Austrian Embassy to Venezuela,
- Mr. Jorge Uribe Roldan, Dean of International Relations of the University of Bogota and Former Director of Proexport in London,
- Mr. Allan Slusher, Advisor to the Minister of Finance of Belize,
- and Mrs. Maria Dijkhoff - Pita, Director of the Department of Economic Affairs of Aruba.



The Organizing Committee for the IX Business Forum in Aruba has started with the promotion of this grand event since last year and is responsible for the organization. The Committee is a public and private cooperation between the Department of Economic Affairs, Commerce and Industry, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Aruba and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The promotion of the Forum is done in cooperation with the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) and its Members and Associated Members. The ACS was founded in Cartagena Colombia. The main goal of the association is to promote consultation, cooperation and concerted action among all the counties of the Caribbean. At the moment the association consists of 25 Member States and 3 Associated Members. The headquarters of the ACS are located in Trinidad & Tobago. The current Secretary General of the Association of the Caribbean states is Mr. Luis Fernando Andrade Falla, who will also be present during the 2008

Business Forum. The ACS has certain priorities set on its agenda, basically Trade, Transport, Sustainable Tourism and Natural Disasters.

The Department of Economic Affairs Aruba, the Department of Foreign Affairs Aruba and the Chamber of Commerce kindly invites all local and international companies, weather service or product export oriented to participate in one of the events of the Business Forum. It's a unique opportunity to promote and enhance intra regional and international trade and investment. For more information and registration you are invited to consult the web page of the event or contact one of the members of the Organizing Committee. 

www.9acsbusinessforum-aruba.com

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